

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-5. (Cancelled)

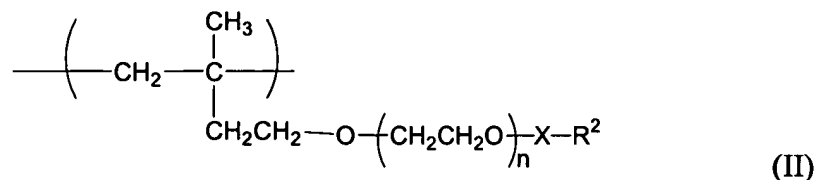
6. (Previously amended) A composition for vibration damper, which comprises 0.01-2 parts by mass a thickener for water-based vibration damper containing a polymer comprising 20-69 mol% an alkali-soluble monomer unit and 0.001-2.0 mol% an associating monomer unit, 10-60 parts by mass an water-based copolymer latex, and 40-90 parts by mass an inorganic filler per 100 parts by mass the solid portion of the composition, wherein the solid portion is in the range of 60-85% by mass of the composition.

7. (Previously presented) A composition for vibration damper according to claim 6, wherein the associating monomer unit possesses in a side chain thereof a group represented by the following formula (I):



wherein R^1 denotes at least one group selected from the group consisting of methylene group, ethylene group, propylene group, and butylene group, n denotes a number in the range of 10-300, X denotes a direct bond, $-C(=O)-$, or $-C(=O)NH-$, and R^2 denotes a hydrocarbon group of 6-30 carbon atoms.

8. (Previously presented) A composition for vibration damper according to claim 7, wherein the associating monomer unit is represented by the following formula (II):



wherein n , X , and R^2 have the same meanings as defined above.

9. (Previously presented) A composition for vibration damper according to claims 6, wherein the polymer further comprises a monomer unit which originates in an ethylenically unsaturated monomer and is copolymerized with the alkali-soluble monomer unit and the associating monomer unit.

10. (Original) A composition for vibration damper according to claim 9, wherein the proportion of the alkali-soluble monomer unit to be incorporated is in the range of 20-69 mol % based on the total amount of all the monomer units, the proportion of the associating monomer unit to be incorporated is in the range of 0.001-2.0 mol % based on the total amount of all the monomer units, and the proportion of the monomer unit originating in the ethylenically unsaturated monomer is in the range of 30-79% based on the total amount of all the monomer units.

11. (Previously presented) A composition for vibration damper according to claim 7, wherein the alkali-soluble monomer unit is a monomer unit having an acidic functional group or both a monomer unit having an acidic functional group and a monomer unit having a salt thereof.

12. (Currently amended) A ~~coating layer for vibration damper~~ composition according to claim 6, wherein the layer has 1.5-4.5 mm of thickness.

13. (Currently amended) A ~~coating layer for vibration damper~~ composition according to claim 6 according to claim 7, wherein the layer has 1.5-4.5 mm of thickness.

14. (New) A composition according to claim 6, further comprising 0.05-5.0 parts of a polyvalent metal compound based on 100 parts by mass of the solid components.

15. (New) A composition according to claim 14, wherein said polyvalent metal is one member selected from the group consisting of zinc oxide, zinc chloride, zinc sulfate, and calcium carbonate.

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16. (New) A composition according to claim 6, wherein the inorganic filler is 45-85 parts by mass per 100 parts by mass the solid portion of the composition.